INAUGURAL EXERCISES.

The Inaugural Exercises installing Dr. Pritchett as President of the Institute were held in Symphony Hall on Wednesday, October twenty-fourth. On behalf of the Corporation Col. Thomas L. Livermore spoke as follows:

At the beginning of the present year, the Executive Committee of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, learning with great regret the wish of President Crafts to relinquish his office, found themselves facing the grave duty of choosing a successor to the line of eminent men who had sat in the President’s chair. The standard which they had set was a high one. Under their leadership the Institute had grown into a complex organization of nearly twelve hundred students and a hundred and seventy-seven instructors, from the modest corps of twenty-five students and five professors with which it began its life in 1865 under President Rogers, that prophet who had the imagination to conceive, the courage to project and the genius to create this novel institution of learning.

There was no lack of nominees for the office worthy of respectful consideration, but there was one whose qualifications were preeminent in the estimation of the committee. After long experience as an instructor in science, and of eminent repute at home and abroad for scientific attainments and work, he had, at the head of the Coast and Geodetic Survey to which he was called by the President of the United States, demonstrated his profound learning together with a genius for organization and the talent for wise control, which are the essentials in the successful administration of great colleges.

It is a good omen for the future of this Institute that its new president comes from the great valley of the Mississippi over which the star of Empire stands still. It brings to Massachusetts some measure of a not unworthy revenge for the allurement to the fertile prairies of the West of so many of our best young men. If it shall result from this event that more of the young men of the West seek admission to the Institute, then in taking a more generous revenge